

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-15 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 RSC-01 ISO-00

PCH-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

CCO-00 USSS-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 AID-20 OMB-01 OPR-02 EB-11

COME-00 SCEM-02 INT-08 TRSE-00 A-01 SY-10 SCS-03

SCA-01 FS-01 INRE-00 /238 R

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S/S-O: PPSARROS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE

USDEL SALT TWO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SUVA BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY BANJUL BY POUCH

AMCONSUL CURACAO BY POUCH

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE BY POUCH

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMCONSUL CURACAO

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

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INFORM CONSULS

KUWAIT POUCH MUSCAT DOHA

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: XX

SUBJ: MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

1. FOLLOWING FYI IS MIDDLE EAST SITUATION THROUGH EVENING
OCTOBER 14:

2. MILITARY SITUATION: ON SYRIAN FRONT ISRAELIS CONTINUED
A CAUTIOUS ADVANCE ENDING DAY APPROXIMATELY 14 MILES FROM DAMASCUS,
WHICH THEY CLAIM IS NOW UNDER ISRAELI ARTILLERY FIRE. THE IDF
CLAIMS 60-70 SYRIAN TANKS FOR THE DAY. ISRAELI AIR ACTIVITY IN
SUPPORT OF GROUND OPERATIONS WAS HEAVY AND THERE WERE STRIKES
AGAINST MILITARY AIR FIELDS IN SOUTHERN SYRIA. THE JORDANIAN
BRIGADE CONTINUED ITS SLOW MOVEMENT INTO SYRIA BUT THERE WAS NO
EVIDENCE OF ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN JORDANIAN AND ISRAELI FORCES.

3. IN A PUBLIC STATEMENT DAYAN INDICATED THE ISRAELI
MILITARY EMPHASIS IS NOW SHIFTING FROM SYRIAN FRONT TO SINAI.
IN SINAI THE EGYPTIAN'S LAUNCHED AN OFFENSIVE ALONG THE ENTIRE
FRONT BUT MET STRONG ISRAELI RESISTANCE. IDF SOURCES CLAIM THE
ISRAELI FORCES DESTROYED BETWEEN 200-280 EGYPTIAN TANKS;
EGYPT CLAIMS TO HAVE DESTROYED 150 ISRAELI TANKS BUT IDF ESTIMATES
OF ISRAELI LOSSES ARE 30-40 TANKS. THE EGYPTIANS MADE SIGNIFICANT
FORWARD PROGRESS ONLY IN THE SOUTHERN SECTOR WHERE THEY PUSHED TO
ABOUT 10 KILOMETERS EAST OF THE SUEZ CANAL. THE IDF REPORTED
THAT EGYPTIAN, LIBYAN AND IRAQI AIRCRAFT ATTACKED BIR JIFJAFAH
IN SINAI, CAUSING SOME DAMAGE.

4. ISRAEL ANNOUNCED DURING THE DAY 656 IDF TROOPS HAVE BEEN
KILLED IN ACTION. UNTSO SOURCES ESTIMATE THE ARAB-ISRAELI
EQUIPMENT LOSS RATIO AS 3-2 IN TANKS AND 2-1 IN AIRCRAFT.
U.S. MILITARY INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES THAT PRIOR OCT. 14 FIGHTING
TANK LOSSES RAN 700 FOR ISRAEL AND 1300 FOR ARABS AND THAT
ISRAEL HAD LOST UP TO 90 AIRCRAFT COMPARED TO UP TO 300 ARAB
AIRCRAFT LOST.

5. POLITICAL SITUATION: THE ACCUSATION OF DIRECT US MILITARY
INVOLVEMENT ON ISRAELI SIDE IS BEING SPREAD INCREASINGLY IN
ARAB WORLD AND, IN COURSE OF OCT. 14 SEVERAL ARAB GOVERNMENTS
REACTED OFFICIALLY TO REPORTS, SO FAR ONLY IN PRESS, THAT THE
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U.S. HAS REACHED A DECISION TO CONDUCT A MILITARY RESUPPLY
AIRLIFT FOR ISRAEL. THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT PUBLICIZED ITS PROTEST
TO THE U.S. PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA HAS SENT AN URGENT MESSAGE TO
THE PRESIDENT NOTING CONCERN AT REPORTS OF U.S. ARMS SHIPMENTS,
AND THE YEMENI GOVERNMENT HAS PROTESTED INFORMALLY TO OUR
AMBASSADOR. SYRIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER TOLD U.N. SECRETARY
WALDHEIM THAT U.S. PLANES AND PILOTS ARE PARTICIPATING IN BATTLE
OVER SYRIA. INSTRUCTIONS HAVE NOW GONE OUT TO OUR AMBASSADORS

IN THE ARAB WORLD CATEGORICALLY DENYING ANY INVOLVEMENT OF U.S. MILITARY FORCES OR PERSONNEL IN THE FIGHTING AND GIVING THE RATIONALE FOR OUR RESUPPLY OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO ISRAEL IN CONTEXT OF SOVIET MASSIVE RESUPPLY OF ARABS, WHICH IS CONTINUING.

6. AMERICAN COMMUNITIES: SO FAR THERE ARE NO REPORTS OF HOSTILE ACTION TOWARDS U.S. COMMUNITIES IN THE ARAB WORLD, ALTHOUGH THE RISK OF THIS WILL INCREASE AS NEWS OF OUR RESUPPLY OF ISRAEL BECOMES KNOWN. KUWAIT TRADE UNION HAS URGED MEMBERS TO ATTACK U.S. INTERESTS AND URGED NATIONALIZATION OF AMERICAN OIL INTERESTS. WE ARE WATCHING THE SITUATION CLOSELY AND TAKING PREPARATORY STEPS TO EVACUATE AMERICAN CITIZENS RAPIDLY SHOULD THIS BECOME NECESSARY. AT LEAST 35, AND BY SOME REPORTS UP TO 70, OF THE AMERICAN TOURISTS WHO HAD BEEN STRANDED IN EGYPT HAVE NOW REACHED BENGHAZI, LIBYA, AND ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING WORKED OUT TO PERMIT A GREEK SHIP TO SAIL TO ALEXANDRIA TO LIFT THE BULK OF AMERICAN AND OTHER FOREIGN TOURISTS.

7. INTER-ARAB RELATIONS: ALGERIA ANNOUNCED RESUMPTION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH JORDAN FOLLOWING COMMITMENT OF JORDANIAN TROOPS TO SYRIAN FRONT.

8. ISRAELI PROTEST TO FRANCE. GOI ANNOUNCED IT HAS PROTESTED TO FRENCH GOVERNMENT THAT MIRAGE AIRCRAFT, PRESUMABLY DELIVERED TO LIBYA BY FRANCE, HAVE BEEN IN ACTION IN THE SYRIAN CAMPAIGN. KISSINGER

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED SUVA, BANJUL, CURACAO, MARTINIQUE.

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